

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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ABIDJAN FOR REDSO

PARIS FOR HELMAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MALI COUNTRY PROGRAM

SUMMARY: DIFFICULT TASK REDUCING LARGE REQUEST TO SMALL MANAGEABLE PROJECTS. PROJECTS CONCEPTUALLY SUPERIOR, BUT WILL REQUIRE DETAILED ON-THE-SPOT STAFF WORK. RELIEF COORDINATOR AND MINISTER OF DEFENSE PRODUCED LAST MINUTE REQUEST ON TRANSPORT. TOTAL PROGRAM DOLS 2.33 MILLION INCLUDING TRANSPORT/STORAGE NEEDS WHICH SEPARATELY REPORTED. END SUMMARY.

1. AFTER INITIAL RATHER DISORGANIZED LARGE MEETING WITH ALL GOM SERVICES, DISCUSSIONS ULTIMATELY REVERTED TO DETAILED DISCUSSION CONCRETE PROJCTS. ONE RECURRING NOTE, REPEATEDLY STRESSED TO INDIVIDUAL TEAM MEMBERS, WAS HIGH LEVEL U.S. STATEMENTS OF OFFERS TO ASSIST. LEVEL OF EXPECTATIONS VERY HIGH.
 2. AT PROFESSIONAL SERVICE LEVEL, DIRECTORS SHOWED EXCELLENT CONCEPTUAL CAPABILITY IN SECTOR DISCUSSIONS. GOM WELL AWARE OF PROBLEMS, NEEDS, INTRA-SECTOR RELATIONSHIPS, AND DESIRED FRAMEWORK FOR APPROACHING DOLUTIONS.
 3. ON BASIS DISCUSSIONS WITH GOM AND OTHER DONORS WITH EXTENSIVE FIELD EXPERIOENCE, THIS CAPABILITY NOT MATCHED WITH ORGANIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION CAPACITY, ESPECIALLY WHERE POLICY ISSUES INVOLVED AND DECISION MAKING REQUIREMENT IS PREREQUISITE.
 4. PRIMARY AMONG POLICY ISSUES IS QUESTION OF FOOD GRAIN
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PRICE POLICY. THIS OBVIOUSLY UNDERLIES ALL EFFORTS LONG-TERM GRAIN STABILIZATION AND EXPANSION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. TEAM FULLY REALIZES POLITICAL SENSITIVITIES THIS ISSUE, AND IMPOSSIBILITY ACHIEVE QUICK AND EASY SOLUTION. DROUGHT SITUATION MAKES RATIONAL DECISION-MAKING MORE DIFFICULT, BUT COULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY CONSIDER MORE BASIC CHANGES. RECOGNIZE ALSO THAT SHORT-TERM PROGRAM CAN BE IMPLEMENTED EVEN IF BASIC POLICY ISSUES UNRESOLVED. HOWEVER, SHOULD STRONGLY NOTE THAT FAILURE TO FACE UP TO DIFFICULT PRICE POLICY DECISION WILL DEFINITELY FRUSTRATE ANY REAL PROGRESS BASIC SOLUTIONS TO FOOD PROBLEM.

ABOVE COMMENTS APPLY NOT ONLY TO MALI, BUT IN VARYING DEGREES TO OTHER SAHEL COUNTRIES.

5. DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER DONORS MOST USEFUL, ESPECIALLY WITH POSSIBLE DUPLICATION OF GOM AID REQUEST TO MORE THAN ONE DONOR. FAC ESPECIALLY HELPFUL SINCE THEIR TECHNICIANS AND FIELD PERSONNEL AND FUNDS ALREADY COMMITTED TO SOME ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH GOM ALSO REQUESTING U.S. ASSISTANCE.

6. SPECIAL EFFORT BY TASK FORCE ANALYZE MALI TRANSPORT/STORAGE PROBLEM, AGAINST POSSIBLE NEED AIRLIFT NEXT YEAR. FIELD TRIPS KOULIKORO, MOPTI, GAO IMPROVED ASSESSMENT ACTION ALTERNATIVES. SEE SEPARATE CABLE TRANSPORT PROBLEM SOLUTIONS.

7. MEETING WITH FAO MULTIDONOR TEAM SUBSEQUENT THEIR COUNTRY RECOMMENDATIONS. INDICATIONS FAO ACCEPTED FOOD GAP AND STORAGE REQUIREMENT NEEDS GIVEN BY GOM WITH LITTLE FIELD OBSERVATION AND NO CHANGE FIGURES. WE ABLE POINT OUT OBVIOUS INFLATION OF REQUIREMENTS BASED ON FIELD TRIPS AND DISCUSSIONS RESPONSIBLE LOCAL GOM OFFICIALS.

8. WE UNDERSTAND FAO TEAM MAY BE MAKING SEPARATE CONFIDENTIAL REPORT WITH MORE ACCURATE ASSESSMENT FOOD/STORAGE NEEDS. UNLESS THIS IS CASE, BELIEVE FAO REPORT, WITH FORMAL MULTIDONOR IMPRINT, WILL MAKE LIFE MORE DIFFICULT FOR ALL DONORS WHEN SAHEL COUNTRIES USE REPORT AS BASIS FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.

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9. RECOMMENDED PROGRAM COMPOSITION EXCLUDING TRANSPORT AND STORAGE FOLLOWS, TOTALLING DOLS. 1.38 MILLION.

A. ANIMAL HEALTH: THIS PROJECT INCLUDES FINANCING PURCHASE OF TRYPANOCIDES AND ANTI-PARASITE MEDICINES. IMPORTANTLY, PROJECT PROVIDES FOR IMMEDIATE DOLS. 180-200 THOUSAND TO PERMIT CVL-BAMAKO BEGIN PRODUCTION OF BOVINE PLEURO-PNEUMONIA VACCINE URGENTLY NEEDED FOR 1973-74 ANIMAL HEALTH CAMPAIGN. ANTI-PARASITE AND TSETSE FLY CAMPAIGN WILL BE IN WEST (KAYES); CBPP IS FOR ENTIRE COUNTRY. DOLS 380,000.

B. INTEGRATED AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, AND WATER DEVELOPMENT IN WESTERN MALI. AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PHASE OF PROJECT INVOLVES DEVELOPMENT OF SURFACE WATER BY REPAIRING AND CONSTRUCTING EARTHEN DAMS TO INCREASE AREA IN PRODUCTION OF RICE, CORN, AND SORGHUM IN KAYES REGION. LIVESTOCK PHASE CALLS SETTING UP ZONE FOR RECONSTITUTING HERD IN SAME REGION. PROJECT ELEMENTS ARE: REHABILITATION AND CREATION OF SURFACE WATER POINTS, PASTURE CONTROL AROUND WATER POINTS, PROVISION OF FEED AND MEDICINES FOR BREEDING STOCK AND CALVES. COLLABORATION OF LIVESTOCK SERVICE WITH RDO/DAKAR AND UNDP LIVESTOCK SPECIALISTS IN BAMAKO VERY IMPORTANT

TO SUCCESS OF WELL-CONCEIVED PROJECT. ADDITIONAL SHORT-TERM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM U.S. MALI LIVESTOCK TEAM NOW IN BAMAKO MAY BE REQUIRED (GERBER SO INFORMED). DOLS. 500,000.

C. VILLAGE WATER: DRILLING WELLS FOR HUMAN WATER SUPPLY IN AREAS HARD HIT BY DROUGHT WHERE WATER SUPPLY IS DEFICIENT. GOM HAS APPROACHED SEVERAL DONORS THIS LARGE PROJECT. U.S. ASSISTANCE WILL COMPLEMENT FED, UNDP-UNICEF, FAC EFFORTS IN WELL-DRILLINGS. DOLS 250,000.

D. PIT SILOS: LIVESTOCK SERVICE WITH PEACE CORPS COOPERATION WILL CONSTRUCT APPROXIMATELY 200 ADDITIONAL PIT SILOS IN VARIOUS AREAS IN MALI TO PROVIDE BADLY NEEDED DRY SEASON FEED FOR DRAFT ANIMALS AND DAIRY CATTLE. IMPORTANT EXTENSION EFFORT WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY BOTH PC AND LIVESTOCK SERVICE. PROJECT CONTINUES EXPERIMENTAL EFFORTS, ALREADY BEGUN AND HIGHLY THOUGHT OF BY LIVESTOCK SERVICE. UNCLASSIFIED

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TO YEAR PROJECT. IF POSITIVE RESULTS AFTER FIRST YEAR GOM EXPECTS EXTEND ACTIVITIES TO COVER ENTIRE DRAFT ANIMAL AND DAIRY POPULATION ESTIMATED AT 300,000. DOLS 50,000.

E. HUMAN HEALTH: FINANCING OF TRANSPORT AND MINOR EQUIPMENT FOR MOBILE PREVENTIVE HEALTH TEAMS UNDER SERVICE DES GRANDES ENDEMIES. TEAM WILL PROVIDE DROUGHT AREAS OVER TWO YEAR PERIOD. WHO/UNICEF PARTICIPATION IN PROVISION OF MEDICINES, VACCINES, AND SUPERVISION IS ENVISAGED. DOLS. 150-200,000. PROGRAM SUBTOTAL DOLS 1.38 MILLION.

F. TRANSPORT/STORAGE REQUIREMENT AS REPORTED SEPTEL INCLUDED 10,00 TONS STORAGE (DOLS 2000,000), ROAD REPAIR AND EQUIPMENT (DOLS 250,000), AND RIVER TRANSPORT IMPROVEMENT NEEDS (DOLS 500,00), TOTALLING 0.95 MILLION.

TOTAL PROGRAM DOLS 2.33 MILLION.

10. TASK FORCE HAS ALSO IDENTIFIED IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES SUITABLE FOR MEDIUM-TERM FINANCING (SAME MEDIUM-TEAM ACTIVITIES INVOLVE CONTINUATION AND EXPENSION OF SHORT-TERM PROJECTS LISTED ABOVE): RICE SEED MULTIPLICATION SCHEME UNDER SPONSORSHIP AGRICULTURAL SERVICE WITH ASSISTANCE UNDP; CONTINUATION OVER FIVE-YEAR PERIOD OF KAYES REGION INTEGRATED AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK WATER PROJECT; AND EXTENDING ZONE FOR RECONSTITUTING HERD AND SURFACE WATER DEVELOPMENT TO EASTERN REGIONS OF MALI.

11. AT FINAL REVIEW MEETING WITH DROUGHT COORDINATOR AND DEFENSE MINISTER, CAPTAIN DOUKARA URGED TASK FORCE CONSIDER PROVISION ABOUT 50 HEAVY AND MEDIUM GM MILITARY TYPE

TRUCKS. DOUKARA ARGUED SPECIAL ROLE MILITARY IN CIVIL AND DROUGHT ACTIVITIES, AND NOTED USE OF TRUCKS FOR MOPTI-GAO GRAIN TRANSPORT. VIEW BACKGROUND THIS ISSUE, TEAM AGREED CONVEY REQUEST AID/W. DOUKARA NOTED HIS DECISION COME WASHINGTON EARLY NOVEMBER DISCUSS ALL PROGRAM REQUESTS. COMMENT: BEST TECHNICAL ADVICE IS SUCH HEAVY TRUCKS CANNOT BE USED FOR TRANSPORT FROM MOPTI-GAO AREA, BUT CLEAR DOUKARA INTENDS TAKE UP THIS REQUEST WITH AID/W DIRECTLY.

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12. TEAM GREATLY APPRECIATES STRONG SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE EMBASSY BAMAKO AND ASSISTANCE USAF AIRLIFT. KISSINGER

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